Information of communication technology or ICT includes all the hardware, software and networking devices which are inter-dependant on each other. Information and Communications Technology, is often used as an extended synonym for information technology (IT). It is a more specific term that stresses the role of unified communications. The integration of telecommunications (telephone lines and wireless signals), computers as well as software, middleware, storage, and audio-visual systems, which enable users to access, store, transmit, and manipulate information. The academicians and researchers started the use of ICT since 1980s.

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) has direct relation with society, social transformation, empowering people and ultimately psychological and human well being. The technology used for upliftment of society’s welfare led to emergence of community informatics which gave birth the academic discipline in terms of society and ICT. Hence, it is urgently needed to be aware of the social, cultural, political, economic and technological aspects of ICT. Social Informatics refers to the use of ICT for social development and have ability to solve complex social problems. However, the relationship of ICT with society and socio-cultural transformation requires and in depth study from different point of view either separately or in a simulated model. ICT consist of information, communication and technology. These three aspects have their own importance over the society and human empowerment at one hand at the same time in a simulated form i.e. ICT has put forth its global effect and directly connected the whole worlds in a interwoven manner.

Information and communication technology (ICT) includes the technologies for the proper dissemination of information. The world is relying heavily on the information, which is now becoming the raw material for various economic and leisurely activities. The information revolution is making people more dependent on the information. Hence the need of ICT tools and applications was felt. This gave impetus to the growth of ICT. ICT in itself is neither good
nor bad. Its application can be used either for constructive or destructive work. The ICT has the capability to carve the future course of any nation. The usefulness of the ICT can easily be made out from the fact that the poorest nations of the world are trying to implement it. The scope and impact of ICT can easily be seen at any level of social structure.

India is one of the developing countries. It is the most preferable hub for foreign based ICT industries to operate. The technically skilled manpower, cheap labour and lower operating cost of manufacturing ICT based application are some of the features which attract the world towards India. The development of ICT can lead to the growth of nation and vice-versa. In India, where the major population is agriculture based and illiterate, the deliverance of ICT benefit to them is a great challenge. Some successful projects like Gyandoot in Madhya Pradesh, Bhoolekh, for managing land records and others are proving to be successful models which are providing benefits to them. This has opened avenues for the implementation of various e-governance projects. Judiciary, which is considered to be one of the pillars of the Indian constitution is undergoing transformation towards e-judiciary.

The nature of cyber space which is unmanaged and anonymous acts as a space for several online crimes. To manage the development process it is very essential to know the risks and threats involved in it. Several legal and managerial steps need to be taken to manage and control the threats and crime. Hence legislation has to be there to check the crime that happens in cyber space.

The study has been divided into seven chapters. Chapter I, Definition and sources of the study, deals with the conceptual framework of information, communication and technology. This also explains the methodologies and approaches adopted for this study. Chapter II, Information and communication technology – its nature, aims, scope and utility of ICT in which levels of use of ICT in different sectors of the development such as agriculture, health, education and impact on the society has been discussed. It has focused over the functions of the ICTs in terms of data collection, retrieval, dissemination etc. Chapter III, Role of e-governance, e-judiciary and e-
commerce in India, discusses the role of ICTs in different sectors of administration for good governing, from legal and business perspectives. Chapter IV, Cyber crimes, its types, impacts and remedies, discusses the role of ICT in enabling and controlling the cyber crimes like cyber stalking, hacking, data theft, identity theft etc. Chapter V, Role of Indian legal system in dealing with information and communication technology in India, discusses about the important laws and Acts related to ICT. Chapter VI, Future and prospects of information and communication technology in India, discusses about the present status of ICT in India future projection has been highlighted. Chapter VII, Role of ICT in the era of globalization, highlights the international relationship and impact of ICT in the era of globalization.